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7 June 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Support)

THROUGH : Project Director of Administration
and Project Director

SUBJECT : Per Diem for [redacted]

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REFERENCES : (a) Memorandum from Project Communications Officer
dated 26 April 56, [redacted]
(b) Memorandum from Director of Administration to
Project Communications Officer dated 20 April
56, [redacted]
(c) Memorandum from Project Communications Officer
to Project Director of Administration dated 28
May 56, [redacted]

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1. Reference (a) above points up the situation where subject employee was required to change his place of residence within the vicinity of Los Angeles several times during the period 12 July 55 through 0830, 15 March 1956 and, as we are all quite aware, even though it has not been specifically stated in any of the referenced documents the costs of survival in Los Angeles proper and the surrounding territories are somewhat expensive.

2. Reference (a) above, particularly paragraph 2, states that Mr. [redacted] was required to remain at a post of assignment for a greater period of time than was anticipated because of the shortage of personnel and the urgency of business to be performed. With the assumption that the individual would be moving at almost any given time, naturally the employee would not be in a position to locate himself in a more favorable rental district at a lower cost for a room.

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3. The dates have not been furnished in either the correspondence or the travel vouchers submitted when [redacted] was required to change his point of residence within the vicinity of Los Angeles. However, it is believed that this point does not require a great amount of consideration for the reason that the fact remains the employee was required to so remain in the locale because of the urgency of business, the shortage of personnel, and the need for training with specialized equipment.

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4. In view of the above, it is my recommendation that a waiver to regulation [] be secured from the Deputy Director (Support) to permit retaining [] in a per diem status extending beyond the 180 days to encompass the period beginning at 1200 on 22 January 1956 and continuing to date and time of departure from the vicinity of Los Angeles, 0830, 15 March 1956 at the reduced rate of (\$8.00) per diem provided for in the regulation cited. Roughly this calculates to additional per diem of \$424.00 above the amount covered and paid under existing regulations for the preceding 130 days.

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5. Approval is required from the Deputy Director (Support) in this instance because of the administrative limitation imposed by paragraph number 3 of [] as assured by the Comptroller's Technical Accounting Staff that it was not the intent to close the door, so to speak, on the length of time that an individual may remain in a per diem status at any one location under justifiable circumstances, but they, as does the General Counsel's Office, join me in the feeling that the language of the regulation cited affords no opportunity for extending the time by "appropriate Deputy Director". A representative of the Technical Accounting Staff is recommending in a separate document that the administrative restriction in the regulation cited be lifted, consistent with intent, in ratification of any payments heretofore certified by personnel in other segments of the Agency.

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6. The communications officer in reference (c) above, particularly paragraph number 2, recommends that the per diem claimed for the period of duty in the Washington, D. C. area be denied and there appears to be no reason for questioning this recommendation. For your information this employee was in Washington, D. C. at the time of selection for project business and based on all information available in his project personnel file any recommendation for per diem while in Washington would be a questionable item.

7. If you concur in the above as well as the recommendation made by the communications officer, please furnish the waiver and approval indicated in order that this long-outstanding disbursement may be effected.

[]
Project Comptroller

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Concur in Recommendation Paragraph 4:

[Redacted]
JAMES A. CUMMINGS, JR.
Project Director of Administration

[Redacted]
Acting Comptroller

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[Redacted]
RICHARD M. BISSELL, Jr.
Project Director

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Action by Approving Authority:

[Redacted] JUN 25 1956
L. K. WHITE

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Recommendation in Paragraph 4 is: approved.
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